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**Mossmorran & Braefoot Bay**

**Community & Safety Committee Meeting**

Date: 29th August 2024

Time: 18:30

Location: City Chambers Dunfermline

Present: Councillor Alistair Bain, Convener - Fife Councillor (AB)

Councillor Julie MacDougall - Fife Councillor (JMacD)

Alex MacDonald - Burntisland Community Council (AMacD)

Lindsay Scott, Cardenden Community Council (LS)

Peter Franklin - Dalgety Bay & Hillend Community Council (PF)

Yvonne Izatt – Hill of Beath Community Council (YI)

Linda Young – Hill of Beath Community Council (LY)

Eleanor Martin – Lumphinnans Community Council (EM)

James Martin - Lumphinnans Community Council (JM)

Stuart Neill – ExxonMobil (SN)

Emma Bradshaw - ExxonMobil (EB)

Katy Street – ExxonMobil (KS)

Pauline McGeevor – Shell (PMcG)

David Fisher – SEPA (DF)

Tyne Bradley – Shell (TB)

Paul McGowan – Lochgelly Community Council (PM)

In attendance: Nigel Kerr - Fife Council (NK)

Kenny Bisset – Fife Council (KB)

Secretariat: Jim Robb, Fife Council

Apologies:

Toby Hamblin – ExxonMobil (TH)

Councillor David Barratt – Fife Councillor (DB)

Gordon Black - Crossgates & Mossgreen Community Council

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Noted.

1. **Declaration of Interest**

None.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes accepted.

Outstanding Action - the question was previously asked why there was no Councillor from Ward 8 present at the meetings. NK advised he had looked into this, and it dates back to the 70’s when this committee was set up, whereby there was an understanding that only one local councillor would represent each area committee. This will be the case at the next local government elections in 2026. All agreed they were happy with this arrangement.

1. **Current Situation Reports**

4.1 Councillors

LS wanted it noted that Elaine Collins (EC) Cardenden Community Council wishes to extend her thanks once again to ExxonMobil.

4.2 ExxonMobil Chemicals Ltd

SN talked to the report previously circulated and highlighted the following:



* Site Safety - no significant operational, reliability or safety issues.
* Have commenced a multi-year project to upgrade the original site cooling tower with a more energy efficient design The foundations for the tower’s new substation are ready with the pre-fabricated substation arriving in September.
* NOX reduction project is continuing, with a rolling programme of upgrades and installations planned over the next two years The benefits of this will include improved energy efficiency and reduced emissions to air (including GHG and NOx)
* A pre planning submission for new offices to accommodate up to 200 skilled workers supporting a range of onsite Projects and Maintenance has been submitted to Fife Council.
* The site received no complaints the last quarter SEPA and HSE interactions continue.
* Enclosed Ground Flare (EGF) Engineering Assessment **-** The EGF was commissioned in June last year, and in the two uses since, has been proven to significantly reduce disturbance to local communities compared to the elevated flare. The unit itself is a new design and the only one of its kind and size currently operating in Europe.
* As with many new designs, monitoring has identified areas where performance is not meeting the agreed design specifications, now working with the manufacturer of the unit to engineer the necessary improvements, and are also committed to sharing findings to help operators maximise this best available technology
* To first determine the scope of this work, the unit will be taken out of operation for a short ‘pit stop’ lasting a few days from 30 August to give teams safe access. During this time, arrangements have been made to utilise the ground flares of the neighbouring Shell NGL plant, if required These arrangements have been discussed and agreed with SEPA. The aim is to complete this work and bring the Enclosed Ground Flare back online as quickly as possible.
* Fife Students Technology Challenge – The team shared their knowledge and guidance with students from Queen Anne, Dunfermline and Woodmill High Schools at the recent Rotary Club Technology Challenge Supported by ExxonMobil Fife, the Challenge brought together over 20 students who were tasked to work as teams to design and build a vehicle capable of moving aid packages across a flowing river. A great event that highlights the skills and qualities STEM employers are seeking in future talent.
* Katy Street has been welcomed as the New External Communications Advisor. Katy joins with a wealth of experience, having previously worked for organisations including Police Scotland and NHS Lothian. Going forward, she will play a key role in communications and stakeholder and community engagement for FEP
* Workforce – As at 26 August Approximately 500 ExxonMobil and Contractor personnel 11 ExxonMobil apprentices, including three new starts this month.
* Supporting the community by being involved with the following; Ten Care and Social Science students from Fife have been selected to receive £10,000 worth of scholarship opportunities. Representatives visited Fife College to deliver certificates and goody bags to those students who won. Donation of furniture to Burntisland First Aid Services Trust who were in need of items for their new training facility. The Donation of a sensory table for Lyndsey House in Kelty. The table will offer a variety of experiences, particularly for those with memory impairment. A donation of £8000 to renovate Beath High School’s netball court. The court will be used by pupils across the school in competitions and by adults in the community at evenings and weekends. Donation of a football table to Fife Young Carers in Glenrothes, this has been set up in the recreation room and available to young carers seeking important respite. Staff and contractors have also made donations to Dunfermline Foodbank and Fife Young Carers as part of a safety recognition programme.
* Further to discussions at the last Liaison Committee, FEP are replacing the bridges that run through their estate. They are part of a core path which follows the route of the original “Old North Road”. Materials have been ordered and work will take place on Friday 13 September. FEP look to forward to inviting all to see the finished product

PM enquired about the timescales for completion of the cooling tower upgrade and would there be advanced notice to the public regarding any emission testing taking place. SN advised that the planned completion was within the year and that emission testing would be made available.

AM – Thanked Exxon regarding the supply of furniture for the Burntisland First Aid Training Centre and asked about the employment status of the 200 skilled workers. SN clarified that these would be contractors working on the afore mentioned projects and that around 100 of these may be taken on a long-term/permanent basis.

4.3 Shell UK Ltd

Tyne (TB) – provided a brief introduction, TB & PMcG talked to the report previously circulated and highlighted the following:



* Tyne Bradley has taken over from Craig Burnett as Plant Manager. Tyne began her career with Shell U.K as a Production Chemist and has since held a variety of roles across the business, both onshore and offshore. Most recently she was Engineering Lead at the Fife NGL plant where she has been based for three years.
* Fife NGL once again had a steady period of operation over the reporting period.
* In early June they concluded the internal inspection of one of their two Gasoline storage tanks and returned it to full service.
* They took a short steam outage to allow them to carry out some maintenance to their steam suppression system for the ground and elevated flare systems.
* In July they started a maintenance scope on Module 1 to allow an upgrade to their furnace burners.
* NGL held their annual group Safety Day in June, as apart of a global event.
* Work continues on Phase 1, the ‘construction village’ for the new Fife NGL Ground Flare project. Work is ongoing and once complete will provide site personnel with office space, a canteen and other welfare facilities for the duration of the project.
* No reportable incidents in this period. An HSE inspection is scheduled for August.
* There are no environmental updates for this period. They continue to engage with SEPA.
* Two emergency response exercises have taken place since the last report covering low likelihood scenarios. One of the exercises was at the Mossmorran site looking at a scenario involving missing people and multiple casualties. The other was at Braefoot Bay practicing the response to a spill to sea from a vessel. Emergency planning exercises take place every month (usually the second Thursday) and cover a multitude of scenarios throughout the year.
* NGL Activities (tonnes processed), Braefoot Bay Activities (shipping number of vessels) and Workforce (numbers of employees) are detailed in their attached report.
* NGL welcomed three Career Ready pupils to site to carry out their four-week internship. On their last day their families were invited to site where they met site leadership and had a tour of the facility.
* We issued one community notice during this reporting period relating to the appointment of the new Plant Manager (TB). Our community notices can be read in full on the ‘Community Notices’ tab of the plant website: https://www.shell.co.uk/about-us/projects-and-sites/shell-fife-ngl/contact.html
* One request for information was received from a nearby resident about some land. On further investigation it was found the land is not owned by us. We also received one noise complaint during the reporting period and on further investigation we found there to be no change in our operation that would cause an increase to noise levels.
* A reminder of how to make a complaint directly to Shell regarding Shell Fife NGL. If you have a complaint or some feedback for us, and your request is not urgent, then please email pauline.mcgeevor@shell.com.
* If you need to contact Shell urgently, then please phone the Gatehouse at Shell Fife NGL +44 (0)1383 611333 or the Gatehouse at Braefoot Bay Marine Terminal +44 (0) 1383 892123.
* STEMovators Celebration Event - 150 young people and teachers gathered at Fife College’s, Carnegie Conference Centre to exhibit their projects and compete for competition prizes in June. Pupils attending participated in STEM initiatives. Lumphinnans Primary School were the overall Regional Winners with Masterton, Fair Isle, Canmore, Carleton, St Margaret’s RC Primary Schools also scooping prizes. Read more here: <https://www.stemovators.scot/future-stem-workforce-in-fife-inspired-by-schools-outreach-programme/>
* Grants - Two separate grants available; Shell Community Kindness Grant (£350) and general Community Grants (up to £1,000) The group were reminded if they are aware of a good community cause to be please reach out to Pauline McGeevor on Pauline.mcgeevor@shell.com or make an application on our website here: <https://www.shell.co.uk/sustainability/society/working-with-communities/sponsorship-and-donations.html>
* Shell UK supports a number of community development and STEM education programmes, which are summarised in the attached report. For more information, visit their website or contact Mairi McKay at mairi.mckay@shell.com

AM had a query regarding the Nanogrid system (home grid) – PMcG provided overview of the Fife College (Rosyth Campus) project – which will involve an energy mix system (wind turbine and solar panels) will provide students with practical SQA accreditation to aid work in the energy transition – Opening later this month - PMcG to obtain photos.

4.4 SEPA (DF)

DF talked to the report previously circulated and highlighted the following:



* SEPA have made changes to the site. The refreshed website can be found at [Mossmorran | Beta | SEPA | Scottish Environment Protection Agency](https://beta.sepa.scot/local-environmental-issues/mossmorran/).
* Permits and Data returns are being moved to SEPA’s public register which is located at [Find an Authorisation Document - PPC A | Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)](https://find-an-authorisation-document.sepa.org.uk/)
* Desktop and onsite inspections continue with FEP & FNGL with particular focus on:
* FEP - Project to reduce nitrogen dioxide emissions – quarterly meetings (latest in August 2024). SEPA air emission monitoring completed in April 2024– no issues of concern found. 2023 Data Returns reviewed. Environmental Monitoring Plan review completed. Ground flare incident follow up inspection completed in August 2024. Maintenance Inspection planned for November 2024.
* FNGL - New ground flare quarterly progress meetings (next in September 2024). SEPA air emission monitoring completed in March 2024 – no issues of concern found. 2023 Data Returns reviewed. Environmental Monitoring Plan review completed. Ground flare maintenance inspection planned in September.
* Braefoot Bay - Ground flare ongoing. Ground flare maintenance inspection is planned for the next quarter.Braefoot Bay - Combined HSE and SEPA COMAH meeting took place at FNGL Site in March 2024
* Complaints since last update (24 May to 23 August) 8 flaring complaints, the majority of which were in relation to the ground flare.
* SEPA continues to operate two continuous noise monitoring stations, one at the Lochgelly water tower and the other on farmland immediately to the north of the Mossmorran complex.
* The SEPA monitoring network continues to operate with collecting data in near real time and is available to the public: [Mossmorran Air Quality Network (sepa.org.uk)](http://informatics.sepa.org.uk/MossmorranAirQualityNetwork/) There have been some issues as sensors have been replaced in batches, but a minimum coverage has been maintained at all times
* VOC data will be available shortly and backdated to January 2023
* AQ Mesh sensors – Some issues with Sensors – Still has provided 3 continuous monitors.

PF enquired on how the public can access the documents on air quality etc. DF informed that all updates can be found on the websites mentioned above.

PM raised a query regarding NOx reduction improvement project, and limits and asked regarding new standards – DF advised that compliance would be expected by 2026

AM had a query regarding the 8 complaints received by SEPA. DF confirmed that these were submitted by one individual, and SEPA were of the opinion that these could not be substantiated

NK – highlighted that wording regarding complaints would be included in the Annual Progress Report to committee (discussed below) and noted while complaints had fallen from the thousands to the tens, that care should be taken collating complaint stats moving forward. DF confirmed that these were included.

KB asked DF when the AQ Mesh data would be available on the webpages. DF said they had been told September.

4.5 Update on Expert Advisory Groups

KB talked to the report previously circulated and highlighted the following:



* Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay Expert Advisory Group on Air Quality – The Independent Air Quality Report for 2023 is being produced with a draft report expected this Autumn. Once finalised then this report will be circulated with an elected members briefing note before the end of this calendar year. This report will also be accompanied by a two-sided leaflet summarising the content of the report in a non-technical format. These documents will be made available on the dedicated Fife Council Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay web pages at [Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay | Fife Council](https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/docs/articles/environment2/environmental-health/mossmorran-and-braefoot-bay).
* Mossmorran and Braefoot Bay General Annual Progress Report 2023 - KB to attend Environment, Transportation and Climate Change Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday 3rd September 2024 to present the above report. Thereafter it will be presented to each of the three Area Committees (Cowdenbeath, Kirkcaldy and South/West Fife Area Committee) at the earliest opportunity.

NK advised that when presenting the previous 2022 report in March (2024), delayed due to covid and other factors, that while positive the committee had asked for the 2023 report to be submitted sooner. It was hoped that the 2024 report would be complete around April 2025. NK wanted to include a note of thanks to Exxon, Shell, SEPA, and also to KB for collating the information and pulling these reports together.

Cllr AB – Also wanted to thank all involved, and KB in particular for his work collating the reports.

1. **Any Other Business**

Cllr AB Highlighted two dissertations going through Glasgow and Strathclyde University and advised it was possible that stakeholders would be contacted for information. The Dissertations had been noted on the Action Group. NK asked if the group were aware of these, PMcG had noted a post on the Cowdenbeath Billboard. NK advised that if the group had anything to share to contact the authors.

PM highlighted a note that had been sent out tothe group regarding the amount of planning applications in and around the Mossmorran plant, including the substation extension and Auchtertool battery plant development – COMAH regional resiliency reports and had directed this to Police Scotland, asking if the totality of these application had been considered with regard to a potential major incident. PM said Lochgelly CC would like this group to take this on board. DF responded and highlighted modelling of prospective major incidents every 5 years. For Shell that would be 2026. Braefoot Bay in Nov 2025, and Exxon 2027. SN advised that PM’s points had been noted and this would be considered for future incident modelling.

1. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 28th November 2024.